MENA CVA Community of Practice
Meeting #3 Minutes

Date: Wednesday 3rd November 2021 - 11:30 (Beirut time)

Attendees:
Facilitator: Gabriella D'Elia
Danish Red Cross: Veerle Schouten
Egyptian Red Crescent: Pilar Badran
Lebanese Red Cross: Hikmat Al Amine
Syrian Arab Red Crescent: Raya Ramadan, Nabeh AlLaham

Guests: Fernando Suarez (510/Netherlands Red Cross); Marwan Al Awar (Lebanese Red Cross)

Excused: British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Iran Red Crescent, Qatari Red Crescent

Agenda:
1. Introduction of new members
2. Updates from members
3. Updates on Priorities setting
4. Presentation from the 510 Team – Netherlands Red Cross on Information Management support services for CVA activities
5. Endorsement of Minutes from meeting #2
6. Updates from facilitator
7. AOB

Meeting Notes:

1. Introduction of new members
   NTR

2. Updates from members
   
   Egyptian Red Crescent has been implementing CVA activities targeting refugees, and for shelter (support to rent); an assessment on the implementation and impact of these activities is ongoing.
   
   Lebanese Red Cross: the MENA Cash Centre of Excellence was launched in October 2021; will work together with the Community of Practice in facilitating peer learning, and will work on adapting existing and upcoming tools to the Regional context. The CoE presentation is planned for next month. ToR and launching Memo attached to these minutes.

   The high inflation rate prompted LRC to switch CVA assistance to USD to preserve the value of support provided; a monitoring exercise is ongoing, and will feed into a Movement Position paper on dollarisation of aid.

   LRC is also investing on expanding its Market based programming capacity, with a planning workshop to be held the following week (8th November).

   Syrian Arab Red Crescent is implementing a CVA for livelihoods initiative in rural Damascus, in collaboration with IFRC Country Delegation. Multi-sector CVA assistance in being delivered in other governorates.

   A Cash and Rapid Assessment of Markets training is planned for later in the month, in coordination with BRC, the Livelihoods Centre, and the IFRC.

   CVA for winterisation is being implement with BRC and DRC.
3. **Updates on Priorities setting**
   As per survey results, priority will be given to providing information on, and planning capacity building activities, and peer-to-peer exchange, both through the CoP and through the development of exchange programmes in coordination with the CoE.

What are your National Society Priorities for CVA?

Answered: 8  Skipped: 0

![Pie chart showing percentages for CVA and Health, Learning from other National Societies experience, and Learning about CVA Capacity Building offer.]

4. **Presentation from the 510 Team – Netherlands Red Cross on Information Management support services for CVA activities**
   Fernando Suarez from the NLRC 510 team presented the IM activities implemented by the team to support other NS Cash activities, and provided examples of the services that can be requested from the team. A Q&A session followed, with questions on data rights and interoperability with other platforms. More information on the 510 team offer can be found at this [link](#).

5. **Endorsement of Minutes from meeting #2**
   There were no comments to the previous meeting minutes. The team agreed that from next month the minutes will be endorsed on a non-objection basis (tentative deadline 2 days) from the sharing of the draft.

6. **Updates from facilitator**
   MENA Cash Centre of Excellence officially launched last week – will promote peer learning among MENA NS and beyond, and work on adapting tools and existing research to MENA NS needs. CoP Facilitator will reach out to CVA FP individually for pieces of work. ToR attached.

   - **PECT training in Doha:** 43 candidates completed the application form; 26 were selected; 5 people who met all the criteria (trainings and work experience) are on a waiting list. Candidates who did not meet the criteria will be informed of the outcome of the application on the email they provided.
   - **NS overview:** MENA: Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Qatar, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen; Extra MENA: Armenia, Belarus, Cameroon, Kyrgyzstan, Nigeria, Turkey, CALP: set up four Communities of Practice (Working groups): MPC, linkages between CVA and Social Protection, Localisation, CVA for health outcomes.
   - **Published a new series of case studies** “Good Practice Review on Cash Assistance in contexts of high inflation and depreciation” (includes Lebanon and Yemen).

7. **AOB**
   NTR
Meetings schedule
The CoP meets every first Wednesday of the month at 11:30 Beirut time until March 2022 – the frequency of schedules will be reviewed during March 2022 meeting.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MENA CVA Community of Practice meetings schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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